AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 30, 1912, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

WHOLE NO. 1188 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1934 | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary | VOL. 24, NO. 3

Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves.—Lincoln.

Hitler's Law Abolishing German Trade Unions Denounced by Green

A. F. of L. President Says Nazi Decree Annihilates Labor Unions, Prohibits Strikes, Ends Collective Bargaining and Gives Employers Power to Fix Wages, with Fines and Prison for Those Who Oppose the Industrial Dictatorship—Urges Vigorous Prosecution of Boycott of German Goods and Services, Decreed by 1933 A. F. of L. Convention, Until Hitler's Anti-union and Anti-Jewish Terrorism Ceases.

Washington.—A stinging condemnation of the law published by Chancellor Hitler of Germany completely wiping out the German trade union movement and establishing an employers' dictatorship over industrial relations, was issued by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

In protest against this reactionary Nazi law, which becomes effective on May 1, Mr. Green urged the thorough mobilization of the American labor movement to make the boycott of German goods and services ordered by the 1933 convention of the A. F. of L. 100 per cent effective throughout the United States.

The text of Mr. Green's statement follows:

"The publication of the so-called German Code which was recently promulgated by Chancellor Hitler reflects the amazing extent to which those in charge of the German government have gone in the destruction of independent German trade unions and the return to the relationship of absolute master and servant which has been forced upon German workingpeople.

Labor's Rights Abolished

"The new decree abolishes all the rights and privileges upon which the organized labor movement of Germany rested. It completely annihilates labor unions, prohibits strikes, does away with collective bargaining and the right to organize.

"This is the finishing touch applied to the general position of Chancellor Hitler in reducing those who belonged to trade unions to a condition of servitude and in the complete destruction of the German trade union movement, as initiated when the officers of the German trade unions were arrested and imprisoned, the funds confiscated and the offices raided.

Employer Dictatorship Established

"The new Labor set up for the German workers provides for a system of shop councils which will function under the supervision of governmental labor trustees but which within minimum provisions will permit the employer to fix wages and working conditions himself although the workers may appeal to the State.

"The law establishes a 'leadership in business,' in which the employer is the leader and the employe the follower.

"It also provides that the employer shall serve as chairman of the shop council which shall be composed, of elected nationally reliable employes more than twenty-five years old.'

"In addition, a so-called 'social honor court' is created in each labor trustee's district with authority to go far beyond the power of the trustees and depose a 'leader' and discharge a 'follower.'

"A mere reference to these dictatorial provisions is shocking to the sense of justice and a comprehension of the enjoyment of democratic rights and privileges held by American workers.

Workers Are Enslaved

"The working people of the United States cannot understand, in fact they cannot comprehend, how it has been possible for the German labor movement, amazing extent to which those in charge of the German government have gone in the destruction of independent German trade unions and the return to the relationship of absolute master and servant which has been forced upon German workingpeople.

Labor's Rights Abolished

"The new decree abolishes all the rights and privileges upon which the organized labor movement of Germany rested. It completely annihilates labor unions, prohibits strikes, does away with collective bargaining and the right to organize.

"This is the finishing touch applied to the general position of Chancellor Hitler in reducing those who belonged to trade unions to a condition of servitude and in the complete destruction of the German trade union movement, as initiated when the officers of the German trade unions were arrested and imprisoned, the funds confiscated and the offices raided.

Employer Dictatorship Established

"The new Labor set up for the German workers provides for a system of shop councils which will function under the supervision of governmental labor trustees but which within minimum provisions will permit the employer to fix wages and working conditions himself although the workers may appeal to the State.

"The law establishes a 'leadership in business,' in which the employer is the leader and the employe the follower.

"It also provides that the employer shall serve as chairman of the shop council which shall be composed, of elected nationally reliable employes more than twenty-five years old.'

"In addition, a so-called 'social honor court' is created in each labor trustee's district with authority to go far beyond the power of the trustees and depose a 'leader' and discharge a 'follower.'

"A mere reference to these dictatorial provisions is shocking to the sense of justice and a comprehension of the enjoyment of democratic rights and privileges held by American workers.

Workers Are Enslaved

"The working people of the United States cannot understand, in fact they cannot comprehend, how it has been possible for the German labor movement, who had always extolled principles of democracy to submit to such enslavement and such autocratic control.

"The officers and members of the American Federation of Labor believe that only force of the most cruel and apprehensible kind imposed upon the working men and women of Germany has brought about the distressing conditions to which the German workers are subjected. We cannot believe that the German workers will either willingly or permanently submit to such injustice and dictatorial control.

Boycott German Goods and Service

"In the meantime, the working people of America share with the German workers their feelings of indignation against those who brought about a destruction of their rights, liberty and freedom of action.

"The cruel treatment accorded the German workers as set forth in the promulgated code referred to justifies the position taken by the American Federation of Labor when it declared in favor of a boycott of German manufactured goods and German service until the German government recognizes the right of the working people of Germany to have a bona fide independent trade unions of their own choosing, and ends the many cases its repressive policy of persecution of Jewish people.

In addition to this definite action taken the American Federation of Labor voices its sincere protest against the inhuman treatment which has been imposed upon the working people of Germany."

AFL Advocates Militant Ten-Point Social Justice Legislation Program

Proposed Federal and State Measures Include Amendment of Recovery Act Labor Section, Shorter Work Week for Both Private and Public Workers, Unemployment Insurance, Old-Age Pensions, Child Labor Amendment to Federal Constitution, Workers' Compensation, Minimum Wage for Women and Minors, Higher Salaries for School Teachers, Stricter Immigration Rules, and Continuation of Federal Relief Measures for Unemployment.

Washington.—A ten-point program of social justice legislation, Federal and State, approved by the American Federation of Labor, was made public by William Green, president of the Federation, in a statement explaining the proposed measures.

"The American Federation of Labor is committed to the furtherance of a legislative program which relates to and affects very vitally the economic and social interests of all classes of working people," the statement said.

"It comprehends legislative measures which deal with vital economic questions relating to wages, hours and conditions of employment for government workers as well as social justice legislation which affects the interests of the wage earner and his family.

Labor Mobilized for Action

"The organizations of State Federations of Labor and City Central Labor Unions have been called upon to present to State legislatures the legislative proposals affecting the interests of labor which can only be dealt with by State legislation.

"The officers of the American Federation of Labor and the legislative representatives will specialize in the presentation of legislative measures to the Congress of the United States and in all efforts which are put forth to secure their enactment into law.

"The legislative measures which will be proposed in the different states cover the Child Labor Amendment to the Constitution, improved workmen's compensation laws, old age pensions, unemployment insurance, factory inspection and minimum wage legislation for women and minors.

"The legislative program which will be supported by Labor and which will be submitted to Congress for action deals with:

Amend Recovery Act

"1. Amendments to the National Recovery Act as contained in Section 7-A, as experience has shown to be necessary in order to make real and vital the labor provisions of the labor sections of the National Recovery Act.

"2. The restoration of the wages and salaries of Government employes, which were taken away from them, through the imposition of the 15 per cent reduction.

"3. Legislation providing for a shorter work-day and shorter work-week within Methods for realizing this objective will be considered by the Council.

"4. The strengthening of immigration statutes, together with adequate enforcement of all immigration laws.

"5. Federal legislation for the protection of the Nation's public schools and for the payment of decent salaries and wages for public school teachers and officials.

"6. Cooperation with the states in the enactment of legislation providing for old age pensions, unemployment insurance, on the abolition of child labor, and the minimum wage for women and minors.

"7. Legislation providing for the licensing of corporations. This legislation is designed to protect wage earners in the exercise of their rights to organize and in the establishment and maintenance of decent wage standards, hours of labor and working conditions.

"8. Enactment of an old age pension law for the District of Columbia.

"9. An amendment to the District of Columbia Workmen's Compensation Act providing for the establishment of the exclusive state insurance fund.

Federal Relief Measures

"10. Legislation which will provide for continuation of relief measures as administered by the Civil Works Administration, and the acceleration of the public building program, highway and public works program. This legislation is made necessary in order to overcome unemployment and to provide for unemployment relief."

"The American Federation of Labor," Mr. Green concluded, "is committed to this legislative program and will concentrate its efforts during the winter both in State Legislatures and in the Congress of the United States to secure the enactment into law of the legislative measures included in this program."

Starvation Wages Paid Pullman Maids And Porters; Company Victimizes 50,000

President Green of A. F. of L. Says the Railway Emergency Act Should Be Extended to Them—Cites Figures Showing That Employes Have Only $1.82 Per Month Left After Paying Rent.

Washington.—"The Railway Emergency Transportation Act should be extended to protect the thousands of interstate one," declared William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a statement criticizing the low wages and long hours established by the Pullman Company.

Injurious Working Conditions

"These employes," he said, "naturally have cherished high hopes that the federal laws ushering in the dawning the 'New Deal' would at last open the way to a shortening of their excessively long hours, an amelioration of the other working conditions injurious to health, and other evils which they so long have endured without complaint and some fair readjustment of their miserably depleted incomes.

"These hopes have hardly sufficed to meet the barest requirements of the approximately fifty thousand of our colored population whose breadwinners, these Pullman workers, find themselves now so forgotten.

"The National Industrial Recovery Act does not affect nor can it come to the aid of these workers. They are not the employes of a common carrier, and common carriers are excluded from this Act. On the other hand, it seems that the Pullman Company escapes the jurisdiction of the Emergency Railroad Transportation Act, on the theory that it is not a carrier by railroad."

In justification for his demand that the Pullman workers should come under the protection of the Railway Act, Mr. Green cited the following data regarding their wages taken from a petition presented to President Roosevelt by the Sleeping Car Porters' Unions:

Victimized by Landlords

"Not only are their earnings very low in these days of inflated rent and curtailed tips, and their occupational expenses unreasonably high; but as is well known, that part of their earnings going for the rental of their quarters is unusually large due to profiteering landlords operating in districts restricted to Negroes and race prejudice, particularly in Northern cities.

"Forty-six per cent of the wages paid the porters goes to defray occupational costs; this courteous, trained, faithful worker having to pay for his own polishing materials and equipment, his meals en route, and uniforms. In 1926, an average of $35.62 had to be taken out of the porter's monthly wage of $73.11.

Pullman Cuts Porters Wages

"The average rent for his home and family was $17.47. This left him a balance of $1.82 per month for food, clothing, medical care and other personal and family expenses. There has been no decline in the cost of shoe materials, clothing, etc., but a decline in the cost of uniforms, only a relatively small reduction in the price of shoes on railway diners; while rents are about the same. In addition costs of living are now rising.

"Since 1926, however, the income from tips has been declining to the vanishing point. And in February, 1932, the porters' wages were cut $5 per month.

"If the run of any porter or maid is less than 11,000 miles per month, he or she receives a minimum wage for his or her class, depending on years of service. The wage of the upon time actually made; and sometimes a porter will get a pay check as small as $7 cents."

General Tire and Rubber Employes See End of Notorious Company Union

Akron, Ohio.—Coleman Claherty, district representative of the American Federation of Labor, expressed the belief that the first test of the strength of the General Tire and Rubber Company's company union here, scheduled to take place within the next few weeks, will end the life of that notorious corporation-financed institution.

The company union masquerades under the title of "company representation" plan. For a long time it has been a bone of contention among employes of the company, nearly nine-tenths of whom are members of the United Rubber Workers Federal Union, a bona fide organization affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

The test will come at the election for collective bargaining representatives supervised by the National Labor Board. On that day the employes will decide whether they will support company union representatives or American Federation of Labor representatives.

"It is not difficult to forecast the result of the vote," Claherty said. "Sentiment among the men and women has always been against the company union since its inception. The firm has made every effort to substitute its own organization for the bona fide union but each try has met only failure."

Asserting that William O'Neil, president of the General Tire and Rubber Company, refuses to recognize the United Rubber Workers, Claherty added:

"This election, when it is held, will show the true sentiment of the employes and will force his hand. He recognized and fully appreciates that the very existence of which is a moral violation of the NRA."

Augusta Schoolhouses Are Built by Union Carpenters

Augusta, Ga.—Two public school buildings here will be erected by union carpenters as the result of the agreements negotiated by J. W. Luquire, business agent of the local union of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, with the Claussen-Lawrence Construction Company and Wheatly & Mobley, local contractors.

Under the terms of the school building contracts, the construction companies may elect to conform with the Public Works Administration regulations governing the employment of skilled workers by securing them either through the re-employment bureau or through agreements with local trade unions. Both of the firms chose the latter method.

It was announced that other unions in the building trades expected to secure union contracts for the employment of their members on the two school buildings.

72-HOUR WEEK IMPOSED ON HOSPITAL EMPLOYES

Pueblo, Col.—A scathing protest against the unreasonably long hours of employment imposed upon them was adopted by the Colorado State Hospital Employes Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, in a resolution demanding relief from the State legislature. It was declared that nearly all the 300 State Hospital employes are required to perform an average in excess of 72 hours duty each week.

The resolution asked the Legislature to remedy the long hours "without impairment of the present wage schedules," and urged that an investigation be made to "compare hours of service required of the State employes with those of commercial and manufacturing establishments where hours are either fixed by statute or governed by codes assigned to the respective classes through the National Recovery Act." The union expressed the opinion that the legislature could reduce the length of the work week at this time without jeopardizing the State's finances.

UNION GAINS RECORDED IN ROCK ISLAND, ILL.

Rock Island, Ill.—Officials of the Tri-City Federation of Labor here, covering the cities of Rock Island and Moline, Illinois, and Davenport, Iowa, report a large amount of progress for working people in this section of the past year. Many new unions have been organized, the Central Labor body has been re-affiliated with the Federation, three cooperative leagues have been established, and new contracts established in the interest of the workers.

Through the efforts of the Davenport Cooperative League men who were re-employed on WPA and other administration projects had their pay increased from 50 to 60 cents per hour. The Cooperative League is sponsored by the organized labor movement and has over two thousand members.

In general the officials declared that there is now more activity of action and less talk among workers and unions affiliated with the Tri-City Federation than ever before in its history.

AKRON PROJECTIONISTS ARE 100% ORGANIZED

Twenty Nonunion Theatres Won for Unions During 1933

Akron, Ohio.—John A. Shuff, business representative of Akron Projectionists' Union No. 384, announced that all the moving picture theatres in the greater Akron area employ union projectionists.

A campaign for the achievement of this 100 per cent organization started with the beginning of 1933, and of the 20 theatres have been lined up. Now union working men and women of Akron area employ union projectionists in theatres they come to with the knowledge that the pictures are thrown upon the screen by union projectionists.

Dayton Paint Workers Strike; Employer Victimized Trades Unionist, Is Charge

Dayton, Ohio.—The entire staff of paint and varnish makers and sample makers at the Lowe Brothers Paint Company here walked out charging violation of union agreements.

According to the strike committee of the Dayton local of the Paint and Lacquer Makers' Union, the strike was called because company officials discharged a union man alleged to have been active in organization work. He said the concern is trying to force one of the strikers outlawed "company unions" upon its employes.

Examination of the NRA code governing paint manufacturers guarantees to employes the right to organize for collective bargaining without interference from employers, the local union placed the matter in the hands of Government officials for settlement. In addition, the union will take part on organized labor's "unfair" list.

A. F. OF L. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETS IN WASHINGTON ON JAN. 23

Washington.—The regular midwinter session of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor will open in the A. F. of L. Building here on January 23.

The Council will have under consideration the entire Federal and State legislative policy and program of the A. F. of L. as well as many important matters in the field of labor organization.

Of especial importance will be the Council's action in bringing the work week for both Government employes and the workers in private industry. The 1932 convention of the Federation declared for the universal 30-hour week as necessary to provide employment for the millions of jobless.

ROOSEVELT PUTS LEWIS ON COAL CODE BOARD

Washington.—President Roosevelt appointed John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, and F. E. Berquist of the National Recovery Administration, as members of the National Bituminous Coal Industrial Board set up to administer the bituminous coal code.

Pay Boost Won on Louisiana $17,000,000 Bridge Project

New Orleans, La.—Workers on the big $17,000,000 bridge project here secured a large increase in wages as a result of the strike settlement in which B. C. Pitts, international vice-president of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, was one of the negotiators.

Under the agreement the employes landed a general 15 per cent rise in pay for workers on the job, with hourly rates of pay for others ranging from 40 cents an hour for laborers to $1.35 for skilled labor. These rates, which were made retroactive to August 1, 1933, are said to be much higher than wages usually paid in Louisiana.

Middletown Unions Add 600 to Membership List

Middletown, Ohio.—Delegates to the annual meeting of the Middletown Trades and Labor Council reported that 600 new members were added to the various trade unions here during the past year. Mrs. Edith Miller, delegate of the Pulp, Sulphate and Paper Mill Workers' Union, was elected recording secretary of the Council. She is the first woman chosen for that position.

ANTIUNION EMPLOYER WINS DECISION BY NRA BOARD

Rochester, N. Y.—Union workers here hardly know what to expect from the NRA Compliance Board judging from the way the employer members shift their position on labor controversies.

After sustaining the charges of four employes of a local packing company that they were discharged because of their union affiliation, and recommending that they be reinstated, the Compliance Board reopened the case on appeal from the employers and reversed its previous decision.

In its first decision the vote of the Board was unanimous in sustaining the charges of the dismissed employes. When the company learned of this decision it immediately asked to have the case reopened for further evidence. John J. Scully, attorney for the employes, finally agreed to this and trusted to the fairness of the board in the light of favorable evidence to confirm its decision.

At a second hearing the company put up the shadow claim that the workers were dismissed because of their inefficiency compared to the ones retained. It is reported, however, that no evidence, testimony or error was presented to the Board.

Confronted with testimony that officers of the company had threatened to employes implying opposition to forming a union, the contention was made that a wrong interpretation had been placed on the remarks.

In the last "final" vote, the board decided 4 to 2 in favor of antiunion employer. Max Zoller, who represented the uncorganized workers, joined with William A. Denison, organized labor's representative on the board, in support of the charges against the packing company.

15 Per Cent Pay Boost For Federal Workers Militantly Urged By Green

A. F. of L. Chief Tells Senate Committee That Government Wages Paid Thousands Are Below Requirements for Recognized Health and Decency Standards—Cites Rapidly Increasing Living Costs as Added Reason for Restoring Entire 15 Per Cent Pay Cut Imposed by Last Session of Congress.

Washington.—Declaring that the wages which the Government now pays 60 per cent of its employes are not high enough to permit living complying with recognized standards of decency, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, urged the Senate appropriations subcommittee to restore all of the 15 per cent pay cut imposed on over half a million Federal workers by the last Congress.

The committee was considering the bill passed by the House of Representatives restoring only five per cent of the cut for the next fiscal year and continuing the remaining 10 per cent slash.

Mr. Green also directed attention to the rising cost of living as an added reason for abolishing the entire 15 per cent pay reduction.

Health and Decency Minimum

On the specific question of the present unwarranted discrimination which the Government awards its workers he said:

"Sixty per cent of the Federal employes are receiving less than the minimum wage for health and decency. In 1932, 417,089 Federal employes, or 60 per cent, got $2,000 a year or less. Since then their budget has been cut by 15 per cent to $1,700 or less.

"The average minimum budget for health and decency in ten large American cities on December 1933 was $1,871. A year-to-year $171 above the best paid of these Federal employes was receiving.

"These figures for the minimum budget were based on ten cities where the cost of living has declined much more rapidly during depression than it has in Washington, so that actually these Federal employes are at present much further below the minimum health and decency standard than appears from these figures.

"In 1923 there were 270,000 Federal employes earning $3,700 a year or less. With the wage cut they were reduced to $1,445 and the income far below the minimum for health and decency.

"The average wage of the Federal employee's family is almost exactly five persons, the number for which this budget was prepared.

"Is the Government going to set the standard by paying a wage even below the health and decency minimum to the majority of its employes?"

Cost of Living Rises

Turning to the already increased cost of living and the inevitable additions to that cost in the immediate future forced by rising prices, Mr. Green pointed out that ordinary standards of equity made it imperative for Congress to partially protect the Federal workers in this field by restoring the entire 15 per cent cut in their pay. He said:

"Cost of living has been rising more rapidly in the city of Washington than in the United States as a whole. From June to December 1933, according to Labor Department figures, cost of living in Washington rose 6.5 per cent, while in the United States as a whole, it rose only 5.2 per cent.

Boosted Prices Inevitable

"We know that we have ahead of us a period of rapidly rising prices. Retail prices of food in Washington are already 15.5 per cent above the depression low point of April 1933.

"The present subsistence rate now which is to last until June 1935. Unless we restore the 15 per cent wage reduction now, we shall force 417,000 employes will indeed be living a pinched existence.

"If cost of living in Washington should rise even one-half as much in each of the next two months as during the past year, the income of its employes will be 16.5 per cent higher than it was when the second pay cut went into effect.

Living Standards Destroyed

"With the present up-surge of prices and the efforts of the Administration to restore pre-depression price levels, it does not seem in the least unlikely that within the next year the cost of living will be 15 per cent higher than it was when the first pay cut was imposed.

"Is the Government going to allow the income of its employes to lag behind the price rise so far as to cause widespread destruction of their living standards?"

Wage Cuts in Industry

Mr. Green also emphasized the deplorable effect on workers in private industry of continuing the wage cuts Government employes due to the well-known policy of employers to use low Federal standards as a basis of justification for holding down and decreasing the wages of workers throughout private industry and commerce.

"The Federal Government is a larger employer of labor than any industry in the United States," he said. "What kind of standard is it setting if the 15 per cent wage cut is continued while it urges other industries to raise wages?"

26 BREWERIES IN FOUR STATES SIGN AGREEMENT FOR UNION SHOP

Seattle, Wash.—Organized labor won a victory of which it may well be proud when a collective bargaining agreement was made between the Pacific Northwest Brewers' Association representing all breweries in Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Montana and the representatives of the National and International Unions concerned.

D. O. Carter, International Representative of the Steam and Operating Engineers, declared that all crafts, including the brewery workers who are concerned in the manufacture and distribution of the ales have come out in the contract. The breweries agree to abide by the jurisdictional awards decreed by the American Federation of Labor conventions, including those made at the 1933 convention. They also agree to have all building and repairs done by members of organized labor.

With regard to wages, the agreement prescribes that the prevailing union wage scales of the unions having jurisdiction in specific territories shall govern all breweries which are a party to the agreement. In return the unions agree to authorize the use of a suitable label on the bottles of brewery products are 100 per cent union.

Relative to the settlement of the controversies the contract declares:

"Any grievance which may arise over the interpretation of any of the provisions of this agreement or matters not herein provided for shall first be adjusted by the foreman and workman directly involved, if possible.

"Failing this, the matter shall be taken up with the management of the brewery by the representative of the union involved and if unable to reach an adjustment shall be referred to a conference committee made up of three representatives of the Association and three from the Unions.

"If the report of the conference committee deadlock, they shall name a seventh member, not associated with either group, to act upon the point at issue.

"The conference committee shall render its decision within ten days from the date of receiving such case, and its decision shall be final and binding upon all parties. There shall be no cessation of work pending such decision.

The agreement expires on April 5, 1935, and continues in effect until either party to it shall give the other thirty days written notice of a desire to have it changed, during which period conferences shall be held for the purpose of framing a mutually agreeable agreement. There is the proviso, however, that the contract may be opened at any time by either party to give the other thirty days written notice for the sole purpose of adjusting hours or wages or both.

Edwin F. Theis, B. Hockstadter and J. C. Donnelly signed the contract for the Pacific Northwest Brewers' Association.

Dave Beck, F. W. Brewster, O. W. Carlson, Earl Anderson, Ed Vandeleur, A. Duncan, Paul Fredrickson and Rowland Watson signed the contract for the unions.

Oil and Gas Well Union's Growth Cited by McGreevy

Henderson, Texas.—While labor conditions in the East Texas oil fields show some improvement and a lot of people have gone back to work, there is a great deal of unemployment, according to Clifford McGreevy, deputy labor Commissioner, who is temporarily stationed here instead of in Port Arthur, which is his home.

Mr. McGreevy, who is a member of the Oil Field Council of International Association of Machinists, said that union labor is making much progress in the oil field country. He declared that the growth of the Oil Field, Gas Well and Refinery Workers' Union has been phenomenal. Very active locals are maintained in Longview, Kilgore, Henderson and other cities. All of the locals, he added, show renewed interest in the labor movement.

EL PASO BUILDING TRADES SOLID FOR 30-HOUR WEEK

El Paso, Texas.—The El Paso Building Trades Council has gone on record for the 30-hour week, the 30-hour week consisting of 5 days of 6 hours each, which is the rule now prevailing in CWA projects here, and declared its firm opposition to the 40-hour week urged by certain employers.

Union officials said that more than one set per week of mechanics would definitely violate the 40-hour week provisions in the office and supervisory labor on construction jobs. They said it was plain that the 50-hour week for mechanics requires contractor to apply the 40-hour week to his office organization, and that the 50-hour week for a mechanic would necessitate two 40-hour weeks for office help. This, they claimed, is quite out of practical reason because of additional costs.

BARBERTON TRADE UNIONS FIGHT ANTIUNION BAKERY

Barberton, Ohio.—The Barberton Central Labor Union, recently chartered by the International Brotherhood of Bakers, swung into immediate action for the betterment of the workers here by active participation in the struggle in Bread and Pastry Salesmen's Union to secure a union shop agreement from the Purity Baking Company. The Council has appointed a committee to call on the city seeking their cooperation in organized labor's fight against the antiunion bakery. The committee reported that Purity Bread and Sweetheart bread. The committee reported that merchants have been asked to lend their aid and in many instances removed the antiunion products from their shelves.

Max Stan was the first Barberton grocer approached by the union committee. He said: "I am patronized by working men and women. If this company is unfair to its employes, I will not handle their bread." And he took the Purity products from his grocery shelves.

At a meeting of the independent grocers, held in the Barberton Chamber of Commerce, the labor committee was told the grocers were ready and willing to aid the unions in their fight against the Purity concern. Only independent merchants were represented at the meeting. Officials of the central body said that no chain stores have offered their assistance in labor's fight against the Purity Bakery products.

42 Georgia Projects Violate CWA Wage Rate, Is Charge

Augusta, Ga.—Trade union officials here have filed charges with the Federal Civil Works Administration projects in which they claim employers are paying workers at 40 cents per hour, contrary to the specific regulations providing a wage scale of $1 per hour for skilled craftsmen. Following the failure of Georgia CWA officials to take steps to adjust the matter, officials of the building trades unions forwarded their complaint to Harry L. Hopkins, Civil Works Administrator, in Washington.

San Antonio Gas Workers Win Union Shop and Pay Increase

San Antonio, Texas.—Officials of the recently organized Gas Workers' Union here negotiated a contract with the San Antonio Public Service Company which accords recognition of the union as the sole bargaining agency, in some instances as much as $5 per day, affecting about 90 per cent of its members, all of whom are in the employ of the company.

The union has the gas works employes very nearly 100 per cent organized. Out of 81 workers eligible for union membership, 78 carry union cards.

TRADE UNIONS THRIVE IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Phoenix, Ariz.—The vigorous organizing campaign being undertaken among the street railway and truck drivers has brought a large number of new members into the trade union movement. Phoenix local 1023, Amalgamated Association of Street and Electrical Railway Employes of America, was established by O. H. Johnson, American Federation of Labor organizer, with 63 members obligated in one hour.

E. L. Mitchell, organizer for the Truck Drivers local union No. 274, stated that the employes of several business concerns are 100 per cent union. During the organizing campaign Mr. Mitchell has brought 60 truck drivers, chauffeurs and helpers into the union. The latest acquisitions to the union fold are the Johnson-Rogers Ice Cream Company and the Vienna Bakery of Tempe, whose products are union made and union delivered.

Georgia Projects Violate CWA Wage Rate, Is Charge

Augusta, Ga.—Trade union officials here have filed charges with the Federal Civil Works Administration projects in which they claim employers are paying workers at 40 cents per hour, contrary to the specific regulations providing a wage scale of $1 per hour for skilled craftsmen. Following the failure of Georgia CWA officials to take steps to adjust the matter, officials of the building trades unions forwarded their complaint to Harry L. Hopkins, Civil Works Administrator, in Washington.

LABOR BOOSTS STRENGTH IN OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

Cooks and Waiters, Auto Mechanics, and Bakers' Unions Make Big Gains in Membership.

Oakland, Calif.—The trade union movement in Oakland is making commendable progress according to the officials of a number of organizations.

John Miller, Secretary of the Cooks, Waiters and Waitresses' Union, declared that 125 members were added to the union in the past three months with the assistance of Organizer Lloyd Representative Frank L. Johnston. During this campaign organizing cards were removed from places violating the union's scale. Over 125 union cards were replaced under union conditions. Mr. Miller said that the organizing campaign also resulted in the formation of a live local of bartenders whose membership was expected to reach the 100 mark.

At the installation of new officers of Auto Mechanics Union No. 1546, Jack Rogers, Business Agent, reported that the union had increased its membership from 86 to 250 in three months with more than 100 applications awaiting endorsement.

Organized Labor and its friends are also taking an active part in the campaign of the Bakers and Confectionery Workers' Union. Union Shops, White Lunches and Bakeries and have withdrawn all support from this firm because of its unfair attitude toward the bakery union. The officials of the company have refused to accept the prevailing wage scale or to employ members of the union. As a result the cost of the firm's patronage has fallen off rapidly and that civic and fraternal clubs have threatened to continue their withholding of patronage until the union wage scale is recognized.